

THE MOORE COLLECTION

by: DANIEL G. FOSTER

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On February 28, 1988, I had an opportunity to examine and briefly record a collection of prehistoric artifacts at Los Angeles Harbor Junior College. This large, impressive, and previously unrecorded collection is of special interest to this author and his colleagues since much of the material was recovered from the Malaga Cove site; CA-LAN-138. I was notified of the existence of collection of Malaga Cave artifacts by John Foster, who suggested that this may prove to be the elusive John Kohler collection (which was photographed in 1926 and appears to contain early-period projectile points). The Harbor College material does not contain the John Kohler collection, but is an important one none-the-less. The entire collection at Harbor College was obtained by a relic-hunter named Milo Stuart Moore. His relic hunting was probably conducted during the 1940's and 1950's, and the entire collection was donated to Harbor College sometime prior to 1969.

Mr. Moore was a science instructor at "Poly" (presumably Cal Poly Pomona?) who was thrilled when reading a 1938 article on "The Mound Builders". He soon began a very active hobby of collecting archeological specimens. The donor card records at Harbor College indicate his address was 1026 W. 20th, Los Angeles, CA RI8-5677.

Some of the material is obviously from out-of-state. His father collected some "Indian arrowheads" from fields in Ohio and these became the first entries of the Moore Collection.

Most of the material is well-catalogued and indicates that the majority of the collection was recovered from California. There are five main accession letters used to catalogue the collection. These are:

- MA Malaga Cove Site, Los Angeles County, California
- MB other sites in Los Angeles County, California (at least some of this material, including both Cogstones, came from the "Bixley Ranch") - or Bixby Ranch (I could not make out writing too well)
- MC Channel Islands
- MD San Nicholas Island
- ME Out-of-state (outside of California, Ohio, Kansas, Mexico, etc.)

The collection is housed in Room #106 of the General Classroom Building at Harbor College, locked up in three large glass-front exhibits each containing six shelves. I had the wonderful opportunity to meet Mr. Claude Aklamakpe, the instructor of Anthropology at Harbor College, who manages the Moore Collection. He was very cooperative with my request to use the collection for research and will have it better organized for my subsequent visit.

There are a few 3/4-grooved axes, large flint hand-axes, and blades which obviously are from the mid-west. These items are few. The bulk of this large collection comes from California. All of the large artifacts have a catalogue number applied to them which corresponds to an accession record card. This enables us to say with certainty that specific items come from specific localities. For example, a pestle marked MA-29 came from the Malaga Cove site, a mano marked MB-2 came from a site somewhere in Los Angeles County, etc. Unfortunately, the locality provenience may be lost for many of the approximately 400 projectile points, since most do not have numbers applied directly to them. They were organized in small box-trays with a catalogue card underneath them. Recently, the collection was disrupted when moved from its second-floor classroom to Room #106 without the supervision of Professor Aklamakpe. This move resulted in some of the material getting separated from its provenience card. Mr. Aklamakpe informed me that he will try to salvage this provenience information when he rearranges the artifact exhibit. I fear, however, that much of this information is hopelessly lost. I could tell that some of the points probably came from the Malaga Cove as they were manufactured from the banded Monterey Chert, a distinctive variety found in the Palos Verdes Hills.

As I was primarily interested in the Malaga Cove material, I only researched the accession records for the MA designation. A complete listing of the 86 entries for MA is attached to this report. These notes were recorded without interpretation, except for spelling errors.

I ^{graphed} photocopied some of the Malaga Cove material. Of particular interest were the fine collection of pestles, the milling slab, a beautiful double-grooved shaft straightener, donut stones, stone discs, shell discs, and the like. All photos attached to this report are from Malaga Cove except the two cogstones which were collected on the "Bixley Ranch - LA County".

Unfortunately, the search for early period (Walker's Level 1) Malaga Cove material) was not successful. There are a number of beautiful, museum-quality artifacts of all three later periods which will prove to be valuable to us for our Palos Verdes Archeological Project. This collection should be revisited by our team and studied in greater detail.

Dan Foster
March 1, 1988

INFORMATION ON THE ACCESSION RECORDS
MA (MALAGA COVE) PORTION
OF THE MOORE COLLECTION

MA-1	Mortar 3/4
2	Mortar
3	Small mortar
4	Mortar (found w/ A1, mortar; and A68 Hematite)
5	Section of mortar
6	Mortar asphalt
7	Anvil -pitted hammerstone
8	Grooved steatite -asphalt sinker
9	?
10	Anvil
12	Small mortar- ss
13	Small pestle
14	Worked stone
15	None
16	Grooved SS paddle or disser
17	Metate killed ceremoniously
18	Stone digger
19	Digger
20	Digger
21	none
22	Small metate
23	Pestle 16"
24	Pestle 14"
25	Pestle bell shaped 6-1/2"
26	Mano 10"
27	Pestle 8-1/2"
28	Pestle 8"
29	Pestle 8"
30	Pestle 9-1/2"
31	Pestle 9"
32	Pestle 9"
33	Pestle 8-1/2"
34	Pestle 7"
35	Pestle 9"
36	Pestle 7-1/2"
37	Pestle 8"
38	Pestle 5-1/2"
39	Pestle 8"
40	Ceremonial
41	Pestle 6-1/2"
42	Pestle 7"
43	Pestle 7-1/2" SS (soapstone?)
44	Pestle 8" knob on end
45	Broken pestle 7"
46	Pestle 7-1/2"
47	Pestle 7"
48	Pestle 10"
49	Pestle 7-1/2"
50	Pestle 6-1/2"

MA-51 Pestle 6" SS
52 Worked stone
53 Knob of pestle 6"
54 None
55 Double grooved shaft straightener
56 Donut stones
57 Steatite donut stone
58 Doughnut stone
59 Core
60 Digging stone
61 Caulker "used for putting asphalt between boards in
chumasa plant boats"
62 Digging stone
63 Disc (stone)
64 Started stone disc 2"
65 2 disc frags (stone)
66 Box of asphalt and shell asphalt holders
67 Abalone shell dishes (some asphalt plugged)
68 Hematite forms
69 Box of bone owl fragments
70 2 bone awls
71 Stone awl and frags
72 Parts of bone fishhooks
73 3 stone pen parts (in box)
74 Shell fishhooks complete, blanks, drilled pieces
75 Shell discs - drilled
76 Scrapers and knives
77 Complete arrow points chumash, triangular, misc.
78 Incised stone
79 Stone drills - includes thumb drills
80 Tubular steatite beads
81 Beads and frags of worked steatite
82 Steatite pendant
83 Broken unfinished steatite pipe
84 Broken steatite bowl fragments and worked steatite frags
85 Rocks used for paint frags
86 Cowrie shell beads



MB (not Malaga Cove)



incised siltstone slab w/ asphaltum



unusual groundstone artifact





milling slab



pestles, donut stones,
acorn anvil? - ground stone with large pit,
stone bowl mortar, shift straightener,

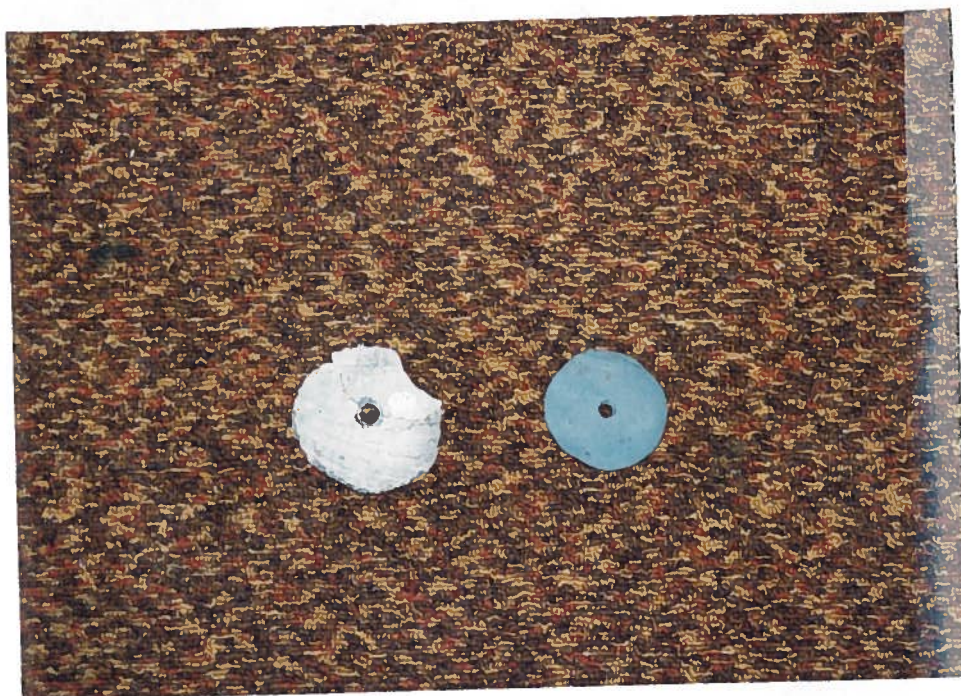


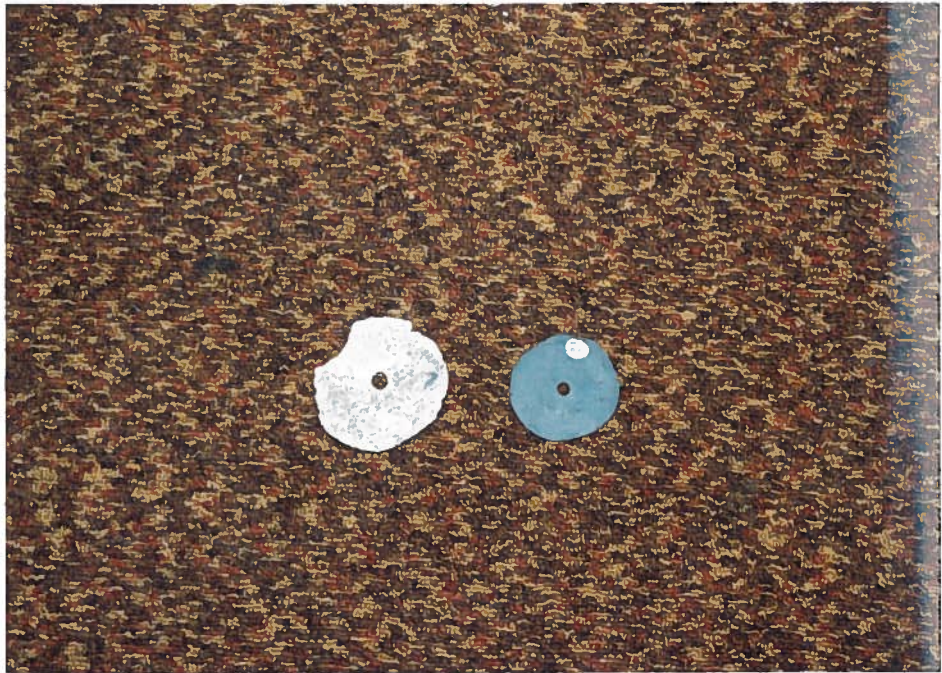
end view of the mano/shaft straightener

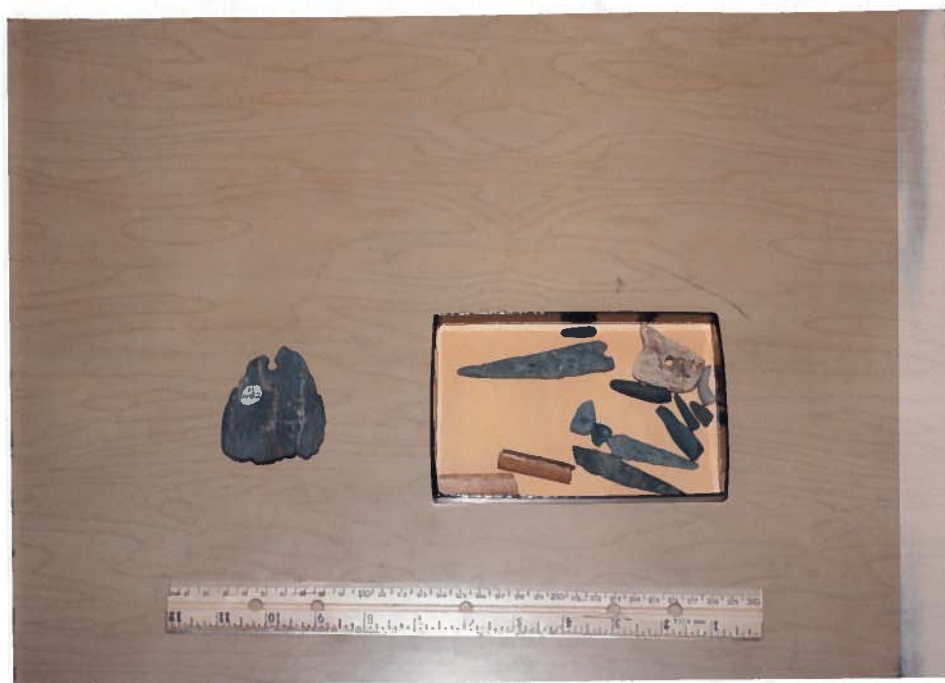


milled surface







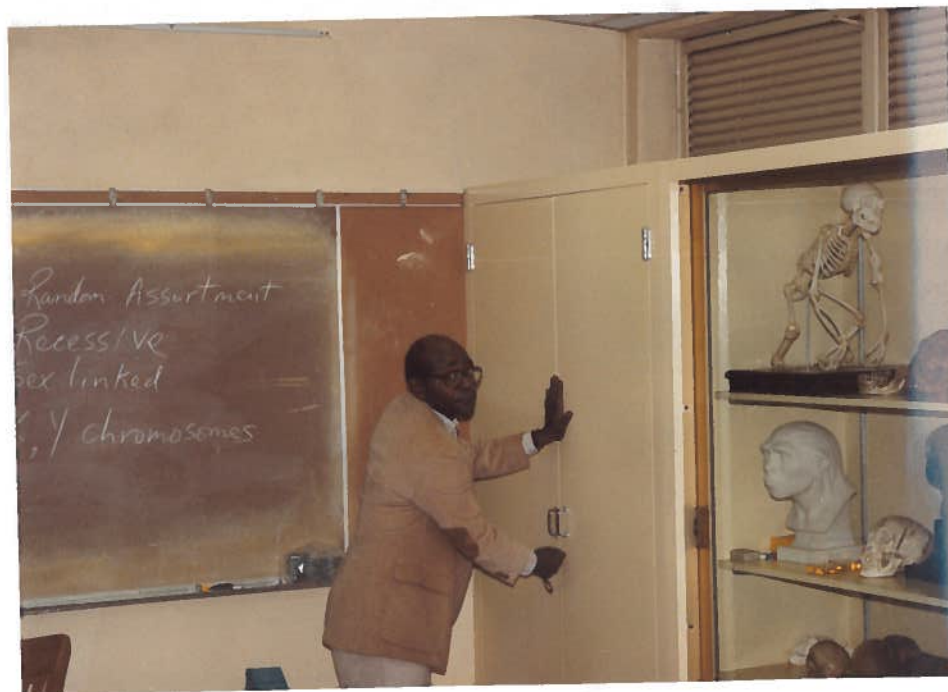












Prof. Aklamapke

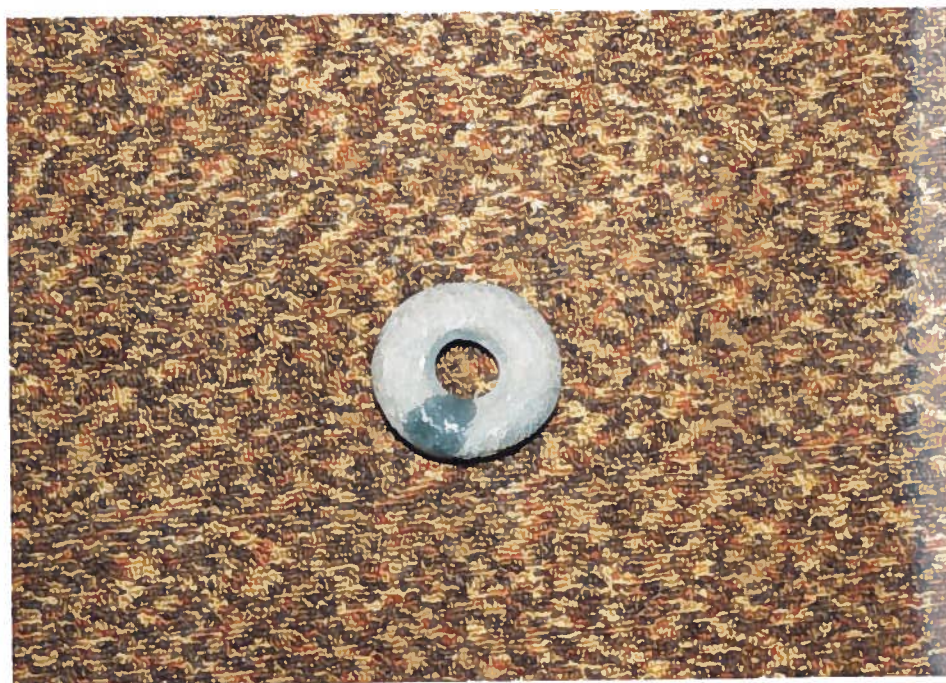




BEGINNINGS OF A DONUT STONE?









Examples of 6 pestles from
Malaga Cove - there
are several others I
DID NOT photograph